


COLEOPTERA.
***Ptinus pusillus*, Stm., a Species of Coleoptera new to Britain.**

By HORACE St. J. K. DONISTHORPE, F.Z.S., F.E.S.

Mr. Pool having told me that he was taking *Ptinus brunneus* at Edmonton, a species he had captured there before, in the corn shop where he discovered *Ptinus tectus*, I went over to collect there with him. I found, however, that he was taking something new, and it eventually turned out to be *Ptinus pusillus*, Stm., a species new to Britain. We took several specimens, and he has captured quite a number altogether. It is a very active little species, running much faster than others of the genus. The following is a free translation of Boieldieu's description of the insect:—"Oval, very elongate, nearly parallel, of a testaceous-red, pubescence yellow. Head large, bent, longitudinally channelled, covered with yellow hair. Antennæ as long as the body, with slender cylindrical elongate joints. Thorax longer than broad, very convex in front, depressed transversely and contracted behind, punctured and rugose, with a feeble longitudinal furrow in the middle, and four feeble transverse teeth, formed by the yellow hair, stiff and standing up; the transverse part behind is furnished with tufts of yellow hair. Elytra whitish-yellow marked with rows of punctures, the intervals smooth and furnished with rows of standing-up hair; there are two transverse rows of spots formed by white hair and not very apparent, one humeral the other near the extremity. The body underneath furnished with yellow hairs; legs long and pubescent. Length $2\frac{1}{2}$ mm.-2mm., breadth 1mm. ♂ and ♀. Temperate Europe. Lives in granaries." It is common in France and Germany, and there is no doubt it is also British, and will be found commonly when granaries and such-like places come to be more worked. The difficulty is that so many of the people who own corn shops, etc., will not allow anyone to collect in them, and are very indignant at the mere suggestion that they harbour anything so disgusting as beetles

COLEOPTERA OF EPPING FOREST.—Taking advantage of the beautiful weather on January 26th, I went over to Epping Forest for a few hours' collecting. Among my captures there is one which seems to be worthy of record, *viz.*, a specimen of *Megacronus inclinans*, Gr., which was taken out of a decaying oak stump. This same stump also yielded fifty or more of the pretty little *Rhinosimus ruficollis*, L., a species which I have never before met with in this gregarious manner. They were not only under the bark, but were also crawling about it, no doubt lured out of hybernation by the warm sunshine.—HEREWARD DOLLMAN, F.E.S., 14, Newton Grove, Bedford Park.

COLEOPTERA IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF DITCHLING, SUSSEX.—I find a few species among my last years' captures, not previously recorded, which may be of interest: *Malachius marginellus*, Ol., one swept off a hedge-bank in late June. *Lissodema quadripustulata*, Marsh., a few out of an old ash stump, together with *Choragus sheppardi*, Kirb., one example. *Aphthona atrocoerulea*, Steph., *A. atro-rivens*, Först., and *A. herbigrada*, Curt., fairly common, obtained by sweeping flowers on the Downs, the latter in profusion. *Homaloptia ruricola*, F., this was taken in fair numbers on Ditchling Beacon, chiefly on the wing during daytime, but also by sweeping. The black aberration was not uncommon, though few perfect examples were met with.—IBID.